

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 DRC-01 /091 W

----- 106846

R 311835Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4846

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, JM LT

SUBJ: VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER OF LESOTHO

1. CHIEF JONATHAN CONCLUDED HIS FOUR-DAY STATE VISIT TO JAMAICA WITH HIS DEPARTURE YESTERDAY FOR TORONTO. DURING HIS STAY, CHIEF JONATHAN WAS ENTERTAINED AT OFFICIAL DINNERS GIVEN BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL, THE PRIME MINISTER, AND THE MINISTER OF FINANCE. HE TOURED THE UNIVERSITY, SEVERAL FACTORIES, THE NORTH COAST RESORT OF OCHO RIOS AND LISTENED FOR TWO HOURS TO PM MANLEY'S MAY 29 SPEECH ON THE BUDGET.

2. ON THE FINAL DAY OF HIS VISIT, CHIEF JONATHAN HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE AT WHICH HE ATTEMPTED TO JUSTIFY HIS INTERFERENCE WITH THE 1970 ELECTIONS. HE SAID THAT HIS ACTION IN DECLARING THE ELECTION NULL AND VOID HAD BEEN DICTATED BY THE BEHAVIOUR OF THE OPPOSITION WHICH HAD ATTEMPTED TO TAKE THE LAW INTO ITS OWN HANDS BY HIJACKING BALLOT BOXES. HE CHARACTERIZED THE OPPOSITION AS BEING REPUBLICAN AND HIS OWN PARTY AS BEING MONARCHIST. AS A RESULT THE KING STILL REIGNS.

3. CHIEF JONATHAN DESCRIBED LESOTHO'S POSITION WITH REGARD TO AFRICAN SOLIDARITY AND SOUTH AFRICA AS "VERY DELICATE AND HIGHLY COMPLEX." HE DESCRIBED LESOTHO AS A FREE COUNTRY WITH A FREE

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PRESS, BUT THAT IT REMAINS A BLACK ENCLAVE IN SOUTH AFRICA. HE PRAISED JAMAICA'S MULTI-RACIAL SOCIETY AND SAID THAT JAMAICA

COULD BE OF CONSIDERABLE ASSISTANCE TO LESOTHO IN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. HE SAID ELECTIONS WOULD BE HELD NEXT YEAR.

4. COMMENT. ALTHOUGH CHIEF JONATHAN WAS WELCOMED WHOLEHEARTEDLY BY THE GOVT, THE OPPOSITION BOYCOTTED ALL FUNCTIONS SCHEDULED FOR HIM. A DAILY GLEANER EDITORIAL WELCOMED JONATHAN'S VISIT, BUT SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD GIVE HIM AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN HIS ACTIONS IN 1970 AND HIS RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. THE PRIME MINISTER SEVERELY CRITICIZED THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION IN PARLIAMENT FOR HIS BOYCOTTING OF THE VISIT OF AN OFFICIAL GUEST.

5. CHIEF JONATHAN'S VISIT IS A FURTHER ATTEMPT BY MANLEY TO IDENTIFY JAMAICA WITH AFRICA AND THE THIRD WORLD MOVEMENT.  
GERARD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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